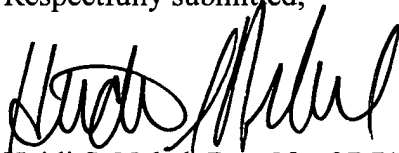


REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending in this application. The Examiner has restricted the claims to five groups: Group I -claims 1-22, 24-25, and 36; Group II - claims 26-31; Group III - claim 32; Group IV - claims 33 and 36; and Group V - claims 23 and 34-37. In response to the restriction requirement, applicant elects to prosecute claims 1-22, 24-25, and 36 with traverse. Applicant submits that no separate search is required to search the non-elected groups as all claims are generally directed to the novel use of betaine in improving freezing tolerance of plants, and can be reviewed in a single search. Reconsideration is requested. In the event the requirement is maintained, claims 23, 26-35 and 37 will be canceled upon indication of allowable subject matter.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this election; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Respectfully submitted,



Heidi S. Nebel, Reg. No. 37,719
ZARLEY, McKEE, THOMTE,
VOORHEES & SEASE
801 Grand Avenue, Suite 3200
Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: 515-288-3667
Facsimile: 515-288-1338
CUSTOMER NO. 22885
Attorneys of Record

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